



FISCAL YEAR 2010 APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES PROGRAM REQUESTS

Justice Programs

United States Marshals Service – I urge the Subcommittee to provide increased funding in fiscal year 2010 above the fiscal year 2009 level of \$950 million for the United States Marshals Service. The core missions of the United States Marshals Service include the apprehension of fugitives, execution of warrants and court orders and the custody and transportation of accused and unsentenced prisoners. Additionally, the United States Marshals Service is essential in providing for the safety of our Federal Judiciary and for carrying out the responsibilities of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-248) (the “Adam Walsh Act”). I urge the Subcommittee to fully fund any initiatives aimed at improving court and judicial security, as well as combating crimes against children.

Lancaster Federal Courthouse - On September 16, 2008, the Judicial Conference approved the allocation of space for a federal courthouse in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. It is my understanding that the United States Marshals Service requires \$2.5 million for the leasing of space and construction of holding cells and other United States Marshals Service space before the Lancaster courthouse project can proceed. Unfortunately, the United States Marshals Service has a limited construction account, and therefore, I am requesting that the Subcommittee appropriate an additional \$2.5 million for the construction account of the United States Marshals Service for the Lancaster federal courthouse.

Executive Office for Immigration Review – I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$315 million in fiscal year 2010 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), which is responsible for conducting immigration court proceedings, as well as executing aliens’ claims in removal proceedings. While the caseload of immigration judges has grown, the EOIR has not received a sufficient increase in its overall budget. In my home state of Pennsylvania, I have met with local prison officials and immigration authorities who have expressed the challenge of deporting criminal aliens which poses a serious public safety issue. Accordingly, as the EOIR is in critical need of the resources to expeditiously and appropriately execute removal proceedings, I support an increase in funding of \$43.387 million over the fiscal year 2009 level for the EOIR in fiscal year 2010.

Civil Rights Division - The Department of Justice plays a vital role in prompt enforcement of our civil rights. I support an increase in funding for the Civil Rights Division and an increased focus on the core mission of the Division to safeguard civil rights. The President has requested \$145 million for the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice. I support the Administration’s request, as well as funding at the authorized level for the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act which was signed into law on October 7, 2008.

United States Attorneys – I urge the Subcommittee to provide adequate funding in fiscal year 2010 for the Salaries and Expenses Account for United States Attorneys, which serve as the principal litigators for the United States Government for criminal and civil matters. I also encourage the Subcommittee to continue its efforts to enhance gang prosecutions, as well as cybercrime and intellectual property enforcement by providing increased resources for copyright prosecutions. The Subcommittee should provide at least the fiscal year 2009 funding level of \$1.836 billion in fiscal year 2010.

Federal Bureau of Investigations - I urge the Subcommittee to provide the Administration's request of \$8 billion for fiscal year 2010 for the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), including \$425 million in enhancements and \$88 million for the National Security Division, to ensure the American people are protected from terrorist and foreign intelligence acts. I also urge the Subcommittee to ensure adequate funding is provided for traditional law enforcement, such as an increase in resources to support additional FBI agents to investigate mortgage fraud and white collar crime as proposed in the Administration's fiscal year 2010 budget. Additionally, I support the authorized level of funding of \$250 million for fiscal year 2010 for the National Instant Criminal Check System (NICS) which houses public records that disqualify individuals from purchasing firearms and is administered by the FBI.

Federal Bureau of Prisons – I urge the Subcommittee to provide the Administration's request of \$6 billion in fiscal year 2010 for the Bureau of Prisons' Salaries and Expenses account, which is an increase of \$405 million over fiscal year 2009. This level of funding will allow for an increase in the number of federal corrections officers at federal prisons. Additionally, adequate funding for the Federal Bureau of Prisons is necessary to address staffing shortages that have put a strain on staff and inmates at facilities across the nation and to safeguard both staff and inmates from serious safety and health problems.

Violence Against Women Act – I urge the Subcommittee to provide funding for the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs at the highest possible level above the fiscal year 2009 level of \$415 million for fiscal year 2010. These funds provide much needed assistance to states, local units of government and other entities to develop and strengthen effective law enforcement and prosecution strategies to combat sexual and domestic violence against women.

Regional Information Sharing System – I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$55 million in fiscal year 2010 for this initiative, which is \$10 million increase over fiscal year 2009. The Regional Information Sharing System (RISS) maintains six regionally based information networks, including MAGLOCEN in Newtown, Pennsylvania. RISS connects law enforcement officers to a national, real-time communications system, thus avoiding duplication of resources and increasing their capacity to combat multi-jurisdictional criminal activity.

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants – I urge the Subcommittee to provide increased funding in fiscal year 2010 above the fiscal year 2009 level of \$546 million for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants program. This program has made it possible for local police departments to acquire a wide variety of programs and services, such as efficiency-enhancing technology and equipment to effectively combat violent crime and illegal drugs.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program – I urge the Subcommittee to provide at least the fiscal year 2009 level of \$400 million in fiscal year 2010. This program reimburses states and localities for a portion of costs incurred for incarcerating undocumented criminal aliens. The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program was initially established because of the overriding principle that protecting the nation's borders from illegal immigration is the responsibility of the federal government. States and localities have no other option but to house these individuals, and, without necessary federal funding, this is very similar to an unfunded mandate.

Drug Courts – I urge the Subcommittee to fund Drug Courts at the authorized level of \$70 million in fiscal year 2010. These funds assist State and local governments in developing and implementing drug court programs for non-violent offenders. Drug courts are an effective tool in breaking the cycle of substance abuse and crime, and will save large sums of funding that would otherwise have to be spent on incarceration.

Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act Programs – I urge the Subcommittee to provide funding for the Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act programs at \$20 million in fiscal year 2010, which is a \$10 million increase over fiscal year 2009. These programs provide grants to State and local governments for mental health courts, mental health and substance abuse treatment for incarcerated

offenders, community re-entry services and training of criminal justice, law enforcement, and mental health personnel.

Prisoner Reentry Programs – I urge the Subcommittee to support the Administration’s request level of \$109 million for prisoner reentry programs, including an additional \$75 million for programs authorized by the Second Chance Act. The Second Chance Act authorized \$50 million for Adult and Juvenile Offender State and Local Reentry Demonstration Projects to provide grants to states and local governments to coordinate reentry efforts, offer technical assistance and disseminate best practices efforts. Additionally, the Second Chance Act authorized \$15 million for Reentry Mentoring grants to allow community and faith-based groups to recruit, train and match returning inmates with mentors. Accordingly, I urge the Subcommittee to provide funding at the authorized level for these vital programs which will support the safe transition of offenders back into the community.

Juvenile Accountability Block Grant Program - The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant program helps State and local governments address juvenile delinquency by building new juvenile detention facilities, hiring additional judges and prosecutors and training law enforcement personnel. In fiscal year 2009, Congress appropriated \$55 million for this program, which was a decrease of \$25 million from the level included in the Senate Appropriations Committee bill for fiscal year 2009. I urge the Subcommittee to again provide \$80 million for this program in fiscal year 2010.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters - The Adam Walsh Act recognized the ability of youth mentoring to make a positive impact in the lives of at-risk children by authorizing the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to make grants to Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, which is headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for use in expanding capacity and serving youth. I request that the Subcommittee fund the program at its authorized level of \$13 million for fiscal year 2010.

Community Oriented Policing Services - I urge the Subcommittee to fund the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program at the authorized level in fiscal year 2010 or, to provide at least the fiscal year 2009 level of \$550.5 million. This program provides grants to State and local law enforcement agencies to increase the number of officers interacting with the community and encourages the use of innovative crime prevention programs and law enforcement technologies. Additionally, I support the Administration’s proposal to include funding to begin hiring 50,000 additional police officers. Supporting the hiring of police nationwide will help states and communities prevent the growth of crime during the economic downturn.

Crime Victims Fund – The Crime Victims Fund, which is financed by criminal fines, forfeitures, and assessments, provides grants to organizations that offer critical services to victims of among other crimes, domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse. The Fund currently has an estimated balance of \$2 billion. As agencies rely on the Crime Victims Fund to operate vital programs, I urge the Subcommittee to reject any proposal to rescind the balance in the fund, should one be put forth, as well as increase the cap on allowable funds to be dispersed from the Crime Victim Fund annually to \$705 million for fiscal year 2010.

John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act - I was an original cosponsor of the John R. Justice Prosecutors and Defenders Incentive Act, which was included in the Higher Education Reauthorization Act that was signed into law on August 4, 2008. This legislation created a student loan repayment program to encourage law school graduates to commit to and remain in criminal justice careers as prosecutors and public defenders. Accordingly, as this student loan repayment program will promote public service and encourage retention of experienced lawyers, I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$25 million for this program in fiscal year 2010.

Commerce Programs

Economic Development Administration – I urge the Subcommittee to provide sufficient funding for the Economic Development Administration (EDA) in fiscal year 2010. I have long been a supporter of the EDA, which provides grants to local governments and nonprofit agencies for public works, planning, and other projects designed to facilitate economic development. Additionally, I support the Administration's fiscal year 2010 proposal seeking \$50 million to support the creation of regional innovation clusters and another \$50 million to create a nationwide network of public-private business incubators to promote entrepreneurial activities in distressed areas. Further, it is my understanding that the \$150 million provided to EDA in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 will remain active during fiscal year 2010.

Trade Adjustment Assistance for Firms - I urge the Subcommittee to provide the authorized level of \$50 million for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) programs for Firms in fiscal year 2010. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 reauthorized TAA for Firms and made significant improvements to the program. TAA for Firms has assisted hundreds of manufacturing companies which have experienced a loss of jobs and sales due to foreign imports. Since 2004, TAA for Firms has saved or created 41,771 jobs at 583 firms around the nation. Though the program is modest, its return on taxpayer investment is substantial; every dollar invested in TAA for Firms returns \$6.48 in annual federal and state taxes.

United States Patent and Trademark Office – I urge the Subcommittee to provide adequate funding for the United States Patent and Trademark Office, which will be offset by collections assessed and collected. This funding will provide critical resources to the office, which is currently facing an overwhelming backlog of patent applications. Additionally, I oppose any proposal to divert fees collected from the United States Patent and Trademark Office to other governmental bodies, should one be put forth.

Intellectual Property Enforcement Fund – There is a critical need for the federal government to take a leading role in protecting intellectual property rights to prevent losses due to piracy and mitigate health and safety risks from trade in counterfeit goods. Accordingly, I urge the Subcommittee to fully fund any initiatives aimed at fighting intellectual property theft.

Manufacturing Extension Partnership program – I urge the Subcommittee to provide the authorized level of \$131.8 million for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program in fiscal year 2010. The MEP strengthens small and medium-sized manufacturing firms nationwide by helping boost productivity, sales, investment in modernization and employment. Requested funding is necessary to ensure the sustainability of our nation's domestic small manufacturing industry and its high-quality jobs. MEP centers are located in all 50 States and Puerto Rico. Pennsylvania's 16,000 small manufacturers are served by seven resource centers.

NASA Programs

National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program – I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$44.8 million in fiscal year 2010 for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship (Space Grant) program, which is an increase of \$4.8 million over fiscal year 2009. The Space Grant program educational and research experiences, as well as scholarships, for students in space, science and related fields. This funding will ensure that the Space Grant program will continue to promote strong science, mathematics and technology education to prepare young people for careers in aerospace science and technology.

Related Agency Programs

Legal Services Corporation - I urge the Subcommittee to provide \$435 million in fiscal year 2010 for the Legal Services Corporation, which is a \$55 million increase over fiscal year 2009. This agency is a private, non-profit, federally funded corporation that provides grants to local offices which, in turn, provide legal assistance to low-income people in civil (non-criminal) cases.